Application No.: 10/788,813

Office Action Dated: January 8, 2008

PATENT REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.116

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A user interface control, comprising:

a touchpad control having a touch-sensitive surface comprising the shape of an arc, the arc divided into a first region and a second region by a dividing boundary, the first region associated with a first function having a plurality of different degrees of said first function, each degree of the first function associated with a corresponding relative distance within the first region from the dividing boundary the touch sensitive surface comprising a first region associated with a first set of functionality, wherein the touchpad control is configured to detect a touch within the first region and to select the first function and an associated degree of the first function corresponding to the relative distance of the touch from the dividing boundary within the first region a degree of functionality dependent upon a relative location of the touch within the first region.

- 2. (Original) A user interface control according to claim 1, wherein the arc is of substantially uniform width.
- 3. (Currently amended) A user interface control according to claim 2, wherein the touchpad control is substantially in the shape of a quarter circle.
- 4. (Original) A user interface control according to claim 1, wherein the arc is at least one of (A) thinner than at least one end of the arc at the middle of the arc and (B) thicker than at least one end of the arc at the middle of the arc and the arc includes at least one of (C) a curved end and (D) a substantially straight end.
- 5. (Currently Amended) A user interface control according to claim 1, wherein the dividing boundary between touchpad control includes a first region for first touchpad input for a first function and a second region for second touchpad input for a second function, different from said first function, wherein said first region and said second region are divided is substantially about the middle of the arc.
- 6. (Currently Amended) A user interface control according to claim 1, wherein the second region is associated with a second function having a plurality of different degrees of

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said second function, each degree of the second function associated with a corresponding relative distance within the second region from the dividing boundary, wherein the touchpad control is configured to detect a touch within the second region and to select the second function and an associated degree of the second function corresponding to the relative distance of the touch from the dividing boundary within the second region the touchpad control further comprises a second region associated with a second set of functionality different from said first set of functionality, the touchpad control being configured to detect a touch within the second region and to select a degree of functionality dependent upon a relative location of the touch within the second region, wherein said first and second regions are divided substantially about the orthogonal center line of the are.

- 7. (Original) A user interface control according to claim 6, wherein said first set of functionality provides a set of functionality opposite to said second set of functionality.
- 8. (Currently Amended) A user interface control according to claim 6, wherein at least one of said first <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> and said second <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> includes varying degrees of <u>function</u> <u>functionality</u> for at least one of Escape, Start, Options, More, Less OK, Back, Forward, Play, Pause, Up, Down, Fast Forward, Reverse, Skip Forward, Skip Backwards, Menu, Left, Right, Mute, Volume Up, Volume Down, Raise Light and Lower Light functionalities.
- 9. (Currently Amended) A user interface control according to claim 6, wherein the degree of <u>function</u> <u>functionality</u> of at least one of said first <u>function</u> <u>set of functionality</u> and said second <u>function</u> <u>set of functionality</u> is determined based upon a distance of an input in said first region of control from the center line of the touch pad arc.
- 10. (Currently Amended) A user interface control according to claim 6, wherein the degree of <u>function</u> <u>functionality</u> of at least one of said first <u>function</u> <u>set of functionality</u> and said second <u>function</u> <u>set of functionality</u> is determined based upon at least one of (A) a velocity and (B) an acceleration associated with an input to the user interface control calculated from recent historical interaction with the user interface control.

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11. (Original) A user interface control according to claim 1, wherein said arc is substantially in the form of a curved cavity in the surface of a device including the user interface control.

- 12. (Previously Presented) A user interface control according to claim 1, implemented in any of a portable media player, a remote control for a computing device, a computing device, a swappable component of a computing device and a component for augmenting a computing device.
- 13. (Currently Amended) A user interface control implemented in a surface of a device, comprising:

a touchpad control comprising a touch-sensitive surface comprising the form of a curved cavity of the surface, the curved cavity divided into a first region and a second region by a dividing boundary, the first region associated with a first function having a plurality of different degrees of said first function, each degree of the first function associated with a corresponding relative distance within the first region from the dividing boundary the touch sensitive surface comprising a first region associated with a first set of functionality, wherein the touchpad control is configured to detect a touch within the first region and to select the first function and an associated degree of the first function corresponding to the relative distance of the touch from the dividing boundary within the first region a degree of functionality dependent upon a relative location of the touch within the first region.

- 14. (Original) A user interface control according to claim 13, wherein the curved cavity is of substantially uniform width.
- 15. (Original) A user interface control according to claim 14, wherein the curved cavity is substantially in the shape of a quarter circle.
- 16. (Original) A user interface control according to claim 13, wherein the curved cavity is at least one of (A) thinner than at least one end of the curved cavity at the middle of the curved cavity and (B) thicker than at least one end of the curved cavity at the middle of the

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curved cavity and the curved cavity includes at least one of (C) a curved end and (D) a substantially straight end.

- 17. (Currently Amended) A user interface control according to claim 13, wherein the dividing boundary between touchpad control includes a first region for first touchpad input for a first function and a second region for second touchpad input for a second function, different from said first function, wherein said first region and said second region are divided is substantially about the middle of the curved cavity.
- 18. (Currently Amended) A user interface control according to claim 13, wherein the second region is associated with a second function having a plurality of different degrees of said second function, each degree of the second function associated with a corresponding relative distance within the second region from the dividing boundary, wherein the touchpad control is configured to detect a touch within the second region and to select the second function and an associated degree of the second function corresponding to the relative distance of the touch from the dividing boundary within the second region the touchpad control further comprises a second region associated with a second set of functionality different from said first set of functionality, the touchpad control being configured to detect a touch within the second region and to select a degree of functionality dependent upon a relative location of the touch within the second region, wherein said first and second regions are divided substantially about an orthogonal center plane of the curved cavity.
- 19. (Original) A user interface control according to claim 18, wherein said first set of functionality provides a set of functionality opposite to said second set of functionality.
- 20. (Currently Amended) A user interface control according to claim 18, wherein at least one of said first <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> and said second <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> includes varying degrees of <u>function</u> <u>functionality</u> for at least one of Escape, Start, Options, More, Less OK, Back, Forward, Play, Pause, Up, Down, Fast Forward, Reverse, Skip Forward, Skip Backwards, Menu, Left, Right, Mute, Volume Up, Volume Down, Raise Light and Lower Light functionalities.

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21. (Currently Amended) A user interface control according to claim 18, wherein the degree of <u>function</u> <u>functionality</u> of at least one of said first <u>function</u> <u>set of functionality</u> and said second <u>function</u> <u>set of functionality</u> is determined based upon a distance of an input in said first region of control from the center line of the touch pad curved cavity.

- 22. (Currently Amended) A user interface control according to claim 18, wherein the degree of <u>function</u> functionality of at least one of said first <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> and said second <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> is determined based upon at least one of (A) a velocity and (B) an acceleration associated with an input to the user interface control calculated from recent historical interaction with the user interface control.
- 23. (Previously Presented) A user interface control according to claim 13, implemented in any of a portable media player, a remote control for a computing device, a computing device, a swappable component of a computing device and a component for augmenting a computing device.
- 24. (Currently Amended) A method for interacting with a user interface control including a touchpad control comprising a touch-sensitive surface comprising the shape of an arc or a curved cavity divided into a first region and a second region by a dividing boundary, the first region associated with a first function having a plurality of different degrees of said first function, each degree of the first function associated with a corresponding relative distance within the first region from the dividing boundary, the touch sensitive surface comprising a first region associated with a first set of functionality, wherein the touchpad control is configured to detect a touch within the first region and to select the first function and an associated degree of the first function corresponding to the relative distance from the dividing boundary of the touch within the first region a degree of functionality dependent upon a relative location of the touch within the first region, the method comprising:

receiving a touch input to the first region of the touchpad control;

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determining a location on the first region of the touchpad control and a corresponding degree of the first function functionality associated with the location which corresponds to the relative distance of the location within the first region from the dividing boundary; and outputting at least one of at least one function call and at least one signal based upon the location and degree of the first function functionality associated with the location.

- 25. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 24, further comprising: performing the <u>first function functionality</u> to the <u>appropriate corresponding degree</u> in accordance with said at least one of at least one function call and at least one signal.
- 26. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 24, wherein said determining includes determining a distance of the <u>touch</u> input <u>within the first region</u> from the <u>center dividing</u> boundary of the touchpad control.
- 27. (Original) A method according to claim 24, wherein said determining includes determining at least one of (A) a velocity and (B) an acceleration associated with the input based upon data associated with recent historical interaction with the user interface control.
- 28. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 24, wherein the dividing boundary between said first region and said second region is substantially about the middle of the arc or the curved cavity said determining includes determining whether the input is in a first region for first touchpad input for a first function or a second region for second touchpad input for a second function, different from said first function, wherein said first region and said second region are divided substantially about a center of the touchpad control.
- 29. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 24, wherein the second region is associated with a second function having a plurality of different degrees of said second function each degree of the second function associated with a corresponding relative distance within the second region from the dividing boundary, wherein the touchpad control is configured to detect a touch within the second region and to select the second function and an associated degree of the second function corresponding to the relative distance of the touch from the dividing boundary within the second region, wherein:

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said determining comprises determining whether the input is in the first region for first touchpad input for the first function or the second region for second touchpad input for the second function, determining a location on the first region of the touchpad control and a corresponding degree of the first function associated with the location which corresponds to the relative distance of the location within the first region from the dividing boundary if the input is in the first region, and determining a location on the second region of the touchpad control and a corresponding degree of the second function associated with the location which corresponds to the relative distance of the location within the second region from the dividing boundary if the input is in the second region; and

said outputting comprises outputting at least one of at least one function call and at least one signal based upon the location and degree of the first or second function associated with the location

the touchpad control further comprises a second region associated with a second set of functionality different from said first set of functionality, the touchpad control being configured to detect a touch within the second region and to select a degree of functionality dependent upon a relative location of the touch within the second region, wherein said first and second regions are divided substantially about a center of the touchpad control, and wherein said determining includes determining whether the input is associated with the first set of functionality or the second set of functionality.

- 30. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 29, wherein said first <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> provides a set of functionality opposite to said second <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u>.
- 31. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 29, wherein at least one of said function set of functionality and said second function set of functionality includes varying degrees of functionality for at least one of Escape, Start, Options, More, Less OK, Back, Forward, Play, Pause, Up, Down, Fast Forward, Reverse, Skip Forward, Skip Backwards, Menu, Left, Right, Mute, Volume Up, Volume Down, Raise Light and Lower Light functionalities.

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32. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium comprising computer executable instructions for interfacing with a user interface control including a touchpad control comprising a touch-sensitive surface comprising the shape of an arc or a curved cavity divided into a first region and a second region by a dividing boundary, the first region associated with a first function having a plurality of different degrees of said first function each degree of the first function associated with a corresponding relative distance within the first region from the dividing boundary, wherein the touchpad control is configured to detect a touch within the first region and to select the first function and an associated degree of the first function corresponding to the relative distance from the dividing boundary of the touch within the first region, the executable instructions comprising instructions for performing a method comprising:

receiving a touch input to the first region of the touchpad control;

determining a location on the first region of the touchpad control and a corresponding degree of the first function associated with the location which corresponds to the relative distance of the location within the first region from the dividing boundary; and

outputting at least one of at least one function call and at least one signal based upon the location and degree of the first function associated with the location for performing the method of claim 24.

33. (Currently Amended) A computing device comprising means for performing : a processor;

a user interface control including a touchpad control comprising a touch-sensitive surface comprising the shape of an arc or a curved cavity, the arc or curved cavity comprising a first region, the first region associated with a first function having a plurality of different degrees of said first function each degree of the first function associated with a corresponding relative position within the first region, wherein the touchpad control is configured to detect a touch within the first region and to select the first function and an associated degree of the first function corresponding to the relative position of the touch within the first region;

memory communicatively coupled with said processor and user interface control, said memory comprising computer executable instructions for performing the following:

receiving a touch input to the first region of the touchpad control:

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determining a position within the first region of the touchpad control and a corresponding degree of the first function associated with the determined position which corresponds to the relative position of the touch input on the first region of the touchpad control; and

outputting at least one of at least one function call and at least one signal based upon the determined position and corresponding degree of the first function associated with the position of the touch input on the first region of the touchpad control the method of claim 24.

34. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium including computer executable modules having computer executable instructions for providing control support to a touch pad, the modules comprising:

a detection component for detecting where touch pad input of a touch pad is received, whereby the touch pad is divided into a first region and a second region substantially about an orthogonal center line of the touch pad, the first region associated with a first <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> with locations within the first region corresponding to differing degrees of the <u>first function</u> set of <u>functionality</u>, the second region associated with a second <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> with locations within the second region corresponding to differing degrees of the second function set of <u>functionality</u>; and

an output component for outputting a functional result, whereby if input is received in the first region, a functional result of the first <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> is output by said output component <u>in an amount corresponding to the degree associated with the location of the touch pad input</u>, and whereby if input is received in the second region, a functional result of the second <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> is output by said output component <u>in an amount</u> corresponding to the degree associated with the location of the touch pad input.

- 35. (Original) A computer readable medium according to claim 34, wherein the touch pad is at least one of (A) substantially in the shape of an arc and (B) substantially in the form of a curved cavity in a surface.
- 36. (Currently Amended) A processing subunit of a computing device for providing control support to a touch pad, comprising:

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a detection component for detecting where touch pad input of a touch pad is received, whereby the touch pad is divided into a first region and a second region substantially about middle of the touch pad, the first region associated with a first <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> with locations within the first region corresponding to differing degrees of the <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> in an amount corresponding to the degree associated with the location of the <u>touch pad input</u>, the second region associated with a second <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> with locations within the second region corresponding to differing degrees of the <u>function</u> set of <u>functionality</u> in an amount corresponding to the degree associated with the location of the <u>touch pad input</u>; and

an output component for outputting a functional signal, whereby if input is received in the first region, a functional signal of the first <u>function</u> set of functionality is output by said output component, and whereby if input is received in the second region, a functional signal of the second <u>function</u> set of functionality is output by said output component.

- 37. (Original) A processing subunit according to claim 36, wherein the touch pad is at least one of (A) substantially in the shape of an arc and (B) substantially in the form of a curved cavity in a surface.
- 38. (Currently Amended) A computing device having a user interface control including a touchpad control comprising a touch-sensitive surface comprising the shape of an arc or a curved cavity, the arc or the curved cavity divided into a first region and a second region by a dividing boundary, the first region associated with a first function having a plurality of different degrees of said first function, each degree of the first function associated with a corresponding relative distance within the first region from the dividing boundary, and the second region associated with a second function having a plurality of different degrees of said second function, each degree of the second function associated with a corresponding relative distance within the second region from the dividing boundary the touch sensitive surface comprising a first region associated with a first set of functionality, wherein the touchpad control is configured to detect a touch within the first region and to select the first function and an associated degree of the first function corresponding to the relative distance of the touch from the dividing boundary within the first region, wherein the touchpad control is

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configured to detect a touch within the second region and to select the second function and an associated degree of the second function corresponding to the relative distance of the touch from the dividing boundary within the second region a degree of functionality dependent upon a relative location of the touch within the first region, comprising:

means for detecting input to the first region and the second region of the touchpad control;

means for determining a location on the first region of the touchpad control and a corresponding degree of the first function functionality associated with the location within the first region, and for determining a location on the second region of the touchpad control and a corresponding degree of the second function associated with the location within the second region; and

means for outputting at least one of at least one function call and at least one signal based upon the location and <u>corresponding</u> degree <u>of the first function or the second function</u> of functionality associated with the location.

- 39. (Currently Amended) A computing device according to claim 38, further comprising: means for functioning to the appropriate corresponding degree of the first function or the second function associated with the location in accordance with said at least one of at least one function call and at least one signal.
- 40. (Original) A computing device according to claim 38, wherein said means for determining includes calculating a distance of the input from a center line of the touchpad control.
- 41. (Original) A computing device according to claim 38, wherein said means for determining includes means for determining at least one of (A) a velocity and (B) an acceleration associated with the input based upon data associated with recent historical interaction with the user interface control.
- 42. (Canceled)